

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

T H E C L A I M S

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a controller mounted on the driving vehicle, and to recite that the driving motor comprises a pair of driving motor units, each of which drives one of right and left front wheels of the driving vehicle, and that the driving motor drives only the right and left front wheels of the driving vehicle independently of the driving of the at least one rear wheel. Moreover, amended claim 1 recites that the controller supplies the power from the power supply section to the pair of driving motor units. See, for example, Fig. 5 (corresponding to the elected species).

In addition, claim 14 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1, 2, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the previously cited combination of USP 4,762,191 ("Hagin et al") and USP 6,390,215 ("Kodama et al"), and claims 14-17 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the previously cited combination of Hagin et al, Kodama et al, and US 2002/0038730 ("Bidwell").

According to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, a traveling system is provided wherein the driving motor comprises a pair of driving motor units, each of which drives one of right and left front wheels of the driving vehicle, and the driving motor drives only the right and left front wheels of the driving vehicle independently of the driving of the at least one rear wheel (driven by the driving engine). In addition, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, a controller (mounted on the driving vehicle) supplies the power from the power supply section to the pair of driving motor units.

It is respectfully submitted that even if the combination of Hagin et al and Kodama et al suggested by the Examiner were reasonable, the structure recited in amended independent claim 1 still would not be achieved or rendered obvious.

Claim 14, moreover, now depends from claim 1, and it is respectfully submitted that Bidwell (cited with respect to

claim 14) is no more pertinent to the structure of independent claim 1 than Hagin et al or Kodama et al.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in clarified amended independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 12-17 depending therefrom, clearly patentably distinguishes over Hagin et al, Kodama et al and Bidwell, taken in any combination, under 35 USC 103.

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In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

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